



## **COLLEGE OF ANAESTHESIOLOGISTS OF IRELAND - ELECTION TO COUNCIL**

### **MEMBERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE**

The Council of the College of Anaesthetists of Ireland (CAI/the College) consists of no fewer than 12 and no more than 15 Council Members elected by the fellows of the College from amongst their number. Other persons may be co-opted on to Council from time to time in accordance with the College constitution. Co-opted members are re-appointed on an annual basis at the Council meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

### **TERM OF OFFICE**

Initial term of 5 years with the option of re-election for a second 4 year term.

### **ELIGIBILITY OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

All Fellows registered for not less than three years with the College and who are in Good Standing on the date fixed for the election, shall be eligible for election to Council.

To be in good standing a candidate must

- be in active clinical practice, either public or private
- be 3 years post-fellowship
- be registered with the College post CSCST or as a registered medical specialist
- have paid subscription fees for the three preceding years
- be enrolled on CAI Professional Competence Scheme and be PCS compliant
- Have no ongoing sanctions or endorsements against them by the Irish Medical Council
- declare any matter that may be perceived as a Conflict of Interest

The Returning Officer's (Honorary Secretary) decision on voter eligibility is final.

### **ELECTION PROCESS AND ADMISSION OF MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Ninety days notice of the election date shall be given by the honorary secretary

Any eligible fellow who wishes to run for election should complete and submit the nomination form within 21 days of the announcement of the election. The nomination form must be signed by 2 fellows of the college who are in good standing.

Election to Council is currently conducted via an electronic system run by Civica Election Services (CES), the process of which is overseen by 2 appointed scrutineers.

Fellows may only vote for up to a number of candidates equal to the vacant places notified at the call for candidates. The scrutineers ascertain the validity of the voting process and confirm the result. Newly elected Council members shall be deemed to take office on Council at the following Annual General Meeting of the College at which time those Fellows retiring from the Council shall be deemed to have ceased as members of same. In an election to fill a casual vacancy on Council the Fellow so elected shall be deemed to take office immediately after the declaration of the result of the election.

Candidates are encouraged to prepare personal election statements in advance of the vote. These statements will be distributed by CES along with details of the voting process.

Canvassing for election to council is permitted but it is subject to compliance with the code outlined below.



## CAMPAINING DURING ELECTIONS

- Candidates must act honestly and with integrity when campaigning in the College of Anaesthetists of Ireland (CAI) council election.
- They must ensure that their campaigns and campaign materials are accurate and not misleading and must not involve CAI staff to canvass for votes.
- Candidates must not use databases held by CAI
- They are responsible for the actions of their campaign and for their campaign materials, including controlling (where controllable) the materials written about them by third parties.
- They must clearly state in any messages communicated when soliciting members' votes that they are acting on their own behalf, using their own resources, independent of the college.
- Candidates are permitted to use Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other social media to campaign for votes, however, a disclaimer should be clearly published stating that campaign material expresses the views of the candidate and not the official position of CAI.
- Canvassing by email or telephone is also allowed.
- The Code is mandatory for all candidates, and CAI reserves the right to amend its terms and conditions as it sees fit.
- The decision of the CAI Chief Executive Officer on all matters relating to the Code shall be final and binding on all candidates.
- All candidates should be aware of the CAI guidance on Professionalism (to access the guidance please click on link : <https://www.anaesthesia.ie/latest-news/professionalism-in-anaesthesia-intensive-care-and-pain-medicine-report/>).
- The College of Anaesthetists of Ireland (CAI), and its Faculties, is committed to promoting the highest standards of professional conduct and performance amongst its fellows and trainees. Our guidance on professionalism contains references to resources that also represent and guide best practice in using social media for medical professionals.
- Trust between anaesthetists and their colleagues is also essential for good professional practice. Integrity, mutual respect, effective communication and shared aims are central to professionalism.

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

Candidates should also refer to the guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners, produced by the Medical Council of Ireland and to the CAI social media policy